

### REMARKS

The Office Action of May 26, 2010 is noted in which the claims are objected to because of certain informalities, namely, in Claims 8 and 9. These objections have been addressed in the subject Amendment.

The Examiner rejects the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103, based primarily on the Mason et al. reference.

It should be noted that the entire purpose of the subject invention is to take care of the situation in which numbers of first responders arrive at a scene, all with different equipment, and all incapable of either intercommunicating or providing sensor data. Whether or not specialized equipment can be provided to each of these first responders, that is not the issue. Nine times out of ten the first responders come from different departments in different organizations with different equipment, none of which talks to each other. Thus while it is possible to provide all of these departments with interoperable specialized equipment so that they are compatible, this is rarely, if ever, the case.

Thus there is a mad scramble at the incident site to be able to provide interoperability.

Specifically, most of if not all of the first responders have government-issued equipment designed for their particular function such as police, ambulance, fire, etc. It is noted that even in terms of the availability of frequencies for use by the various entities, local fire, police and emergency services fight for frequency allocations on a community by community basis. These fights are furious and in the view of the inventors, these

fight are unnecessary. Rather, by providing a simple add-on module interoperability is established regardless of the type of equipment that is originally issued.

As noted in previous Amendments, Mason et al. at best teach that specialized automatic equipment must be utilized; and there is no question that such could be the case.

This however is almost never true in the real world. Until the present invention it was not conceived or otherwise taught anywhere from what the Examiner has cited that one could adapt standard communications equipment with a simple add-on module. This add-on module has all of the automatic interoperable communications facilities built-in. In addition, the module provides a platform to which various situational awareness sensors can be coupled.

Thus, individuals in the police department, fireman department, the EMT first responders, etc. can be issued the simple add-on modules which create instant communication between all responders.

This, Applicant asserts, is completely unobvious because what the Mason et al. show, and indeed what was thought to be true, was that specialized equipment would be have to be issued for interoperability.

On the other hand, providing standard transceivers with the claimed mini modules is an elegant solution to what was thought to be a totally impossible situation, at least from an economic point of view.

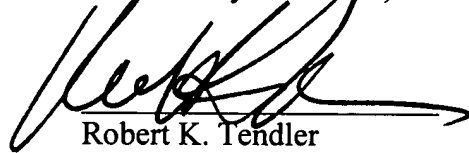
For this reason alone, it is not obvious to take the Mason et al. reference and come up with the claimed invention. First and foremost, this is true because nowhere in the

Mason et al. reference are mini modules shown or taught. Nor is their function shown or taught. Moreover, the Mason et al. teaches a way from the claim invention because it pre-supposes specialized equipment. This is what the subject invention stays away from.

For these reasons alone, it is Applicants' contention that the claims are in condition for allowance.

Allowance of the claims and issuance of the case are therefore earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



Robert K. Tandler  
Reg. No.: 24,581  
65 Atlantic Avenue  
Boston, MA 02110  
Tel: (617) 723-7268

Date:

May 24, 2010